

Weekly Video Narrative August 30, 2021

The Select Board and School Committee will meet in joint session at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 8 and Friday, Sept. 9 to interview eight candidates to fill a vacant seat on the School Committee. The meetings are open to the public. Whoever is appointed will fill the seat until the next town election. For more visit: Scituatema.gov.

Town Administrator Jim Boudreau said there were 17 new Covid cases over the past week, down from 24 the previous week. The town's 14-day positivity rate is 3.06 percent up from 2.93 percent.

The Pfizer vaccine now has FDA approval. Officials expect the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines to receive FDA approval soon. The town will share information on potential booster shots when the CDC issues guidelines.

The Delta variant mainly affects those who are not vaccinated. There have been some break-thru cases with vaccinated folks but those cases have been mild and rarely require hospitalization.

Boudreau said the CDC reports 99 percent of recent deaths were unvaccinated people and 97 percent of recent hospitalizations.

There are no plans to enact a mask mandate in public buildings in Scituate at this time.

Installation of the water main on Old Oaken Bucket Road is in the finishing stages. Once completed, the water main replacement project moves to Brook Street.

The wet summer had kept the reservoir full and kept water usage down. Recent water usage, at 1.4 million gallons a day, is well below normal for this time of year.

The town is still part of a state water ban that affects the water basin that serves Scituate and surrounding towns. The daytime water ban runs from the spring through fall.

The rainy weather is causing the manganese levels to rise and could result in discoloration of tap water. Notify the water department if this is the case so that town can track the discoloration.

The first phase of pilot water testing program at the treatment plant in Greenbush is underway. The second phase will be conducted in the winter to test the water when it's cold. The tests will help determine the best treatment for Scituate water when the new plant is built.

Scituate Well 17A has a new filtering system that is being tested. The DEP will conduct a final inspection in September. The well is expected to add 250,000 gallons a day to the water system. The well water will be free of manganese and iron.

Curbing has been installed for the new sidewalk on First Parish Road from Country Way to the new Senior Center. There will also be a sidewalk from Central Park to First Parish Church where a crosswalk to the Senior Center will be installed.

Police will be conducting radar and enforcement on First Parish Road after surfacing is complete. Boudreau said when roads are newly paved, traffic speed picks up.

Asphalt has been laid on the PJ Steverman inline skating rink at the high school. Asphalt has to sit for 14 to 21 days before the final surface can be added. Boudreau urged skaters to stay off the asphalt until it cures.

On Tuesday morning (Aug. 31), there was a press conference in Cole Parkway with local officials and federal legislators to oppose the closing of the seasonal Coast Guard station.

Students will be returning to school Wednesday, Sept. 8.